

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DLOS-06 AID-05
CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 CIEP-01 SP-02
STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 OES-06 SAL-01
ERDA-05 ACDA-07 FEA-01 NRC-05 PPT-01 AGRE-00 AF-08
SCA-01 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15
/137 W

----- 128296 /72-62

O R 141857Z DEC 76
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2577
INFO ALL EC CAPS 2863
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 12302

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, EG, JO, SY, YO, TU, JA, IAEA, MNUC, TECH, EAID,
EFIN, CIEC
SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, DECEMBER 13, 1976: RESULTS

REF:(A) EC BRUSSELS 12152 (NOTAL); (B) THE HAGUE 6630
(NOTAL); (C) EC BRUSSELS 12150 (NOTAL); (D) EC BRUSSELS 11269
(NOTAL); (E) EC BRUSSELS 6802

1. SUMMARY. THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS' DECEMBER 13 COUNCIL
MEETING WAS LARGELY DEVOTED TO FISHING ISSUES (REPORTED
SEPTEL). OTHER TOPICS COVERED DURING THE ONE-DAY SESSION
INCLUDED: (A) RELATIONS WITH JAPAN; (B) RELATIONS WITH
TURKEY; (C) EURATOM/IAEA VERIFICATION AGREEMENT; (D)
RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA ; (E) MASHREK AGREEMENTS;
(F) CIEC; (G) LOME CONVENTION ACCESSINS; AND (H)
PASSPORT UNION. THE COUNCIL ALSO APPROVED 1977
AUTONOMOUS IMPORT SYSTEMS GOVERNING TRADE WITH STATE
TRADING COUNTRIES AND THE EC'S GSP SCHEME. END SUMMARY.
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2. RELATIONS WITH JAPAN. ACCORDING TO COUNCIL AND PERMDEL SOURCES, FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD SUGGESTED THAT THE EC SHOULD INFORM THE JAPANESE THAT IT WOULD TAKE PROTECTIVE MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD ITS SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY IF JAPANESE INDUSTRY DID NOT AGREE VOLUNTARILY TO LIMIT ITS FUTURE SHIPBUILDING CONSTRUCTION. DE GUIRINGAUD EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE GOJ POSITION DURING RECENT OECD DISCUSSIONS OF THE ISSUES AND COMPLAINED THAT THE JAPANESE HAD NOT TRIED TO MEET THE EC HALFWAY IN THE SPIRIT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL'S NOVEMBER 30 DECLARATION. (THE HAGUE 6630.) OUR SOURCES SAY THAT CROSLAND SUPPORTED DE GUIRINGAUD'S POSITION BUT THAT GUNDELACH STRESSED THAT THE EC SHOULD MODERATE ITS APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM. GUNDELACH POINTED OUT THAT THE GOJ HAD BEEN FACED RECENTLY WITH THE PROBLEMS OF AN ELECTION AND OF FORMING A NEW GOVERNMENT. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE DECEMBER 20-21 EC/GOJ SHIPBUILDING DISCUSSIONS IN TOKYO WOULD LEAD TO A POSITIVE JAPANESE RESPONSE TO EC CONCERNS.

3. RELATIONS WITH TURKEY. DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL (THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT) REPORTED ON RECENT DISCUSSION WITH TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL, INFORMING HIS COLLEAGUES THAT THE GOJ WISHES TO PROCEED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH AN ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING THE MINISTERS THEN REACHED GENERAL AGREEMENT ON AN EC PACKAGE CONTAINING AN ADDITIONAL AGRICULTURAL CONCESSION ON OLIVE OIL IMPORTS AND CONCILIATORY LANGUAGE ON THE TURKISH WORKERS ISSUE, AND AGREED TO PROPOSE TO THE TURKS AN ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING IN BRUSSELS ON DECEMBER 20 OR 21 (SEE SEPTTEL).

4. EURATOM-IAEA VERIFICATION AGREEMENT. AS EXPECTED, VAN DER STOEL RAISED THE EURATOM-IAEA INSPECTION ISSUE, STATING THAT THERE WOULD BE TROUBLE WITH THE US AND CANADA IF NO SOLUTION WERE FOUND BY JANUARY 1. COUNCIL SOURCES TELL US THAT DE GUIRINGAUD STOOD FIRM ON FRENCH OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED COUNCIL REGULATION AND THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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EC COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH THEN URGED THE OTHER EIGHT MEMBER STATES TO DEVELOP COLLECTIVELY AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH TO PERMIT EARLY ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT.

5. RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA. VAN DER STOEL AND GUNDELACH REPORTED ON THEIR RECENT TRIP TO YUGOSLAVIA (EC BRUSSELS 12150). ACCORDING TO COUNCIL SOURCES, DE

GUIRINGAUD, WHO RECENTLY ACCOMPANIED GISCARD TO BELGRADE, CONFIRMED TITO'S DESIRE TO STRENGTHEN EC-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS AND TITO'S APPRECIATION OF THE VAN DER STOEL-GUNDELACH VISIT. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED TO ACCELERATE EFFORTS TO EXPAND RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE CURRENT EC/YUGOSLAV AGREEMENT, AND REQUESTED THE COMMISSION TO DRAW UP PROPOSALS FOR A BROAD ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT TO REPLACE THE CURRENT TRADE AGREEMENT WHICH EXPIRES AT THE END OF 1977.

6. MASHREK AGREEMENTS. FOLLOWING A DISCUSSION OF EC COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON'S RECENT VISIT TO THE MASHREK CAPITALS, THE COUNCIL DECIDED TO MAINTAIN THE EC'S POSITION ON DURATION OF THE EC/MASHREK FINANCIAL PROTOCOLS. SYRIA, EGYPT, AND JORDAN HAD REQUESTED THAT THE EC DROP ITS INSISTENCE ON AN OCTOBER 31, 1981 TERMINATION DATE IN FAVOR OF FEBRUARY 1981. THE EC WILL PROPOSE THIS WEEK THAT THE SIGNING CEREMONIES BE HELD DECEMBER 20 IN BRUSSELS.

7. CIEC THE MINISTERS DID NOT ENGAGE IN ANY SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS OF NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES BUT AGREED TO PUT CIEC ON THE JANUARY 18 COUNCIL AGENDA.

8. LOME CONVENTION ACCESSIONS. THE COUNCIL WAS UNABLE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL AID TO BE PROVIDED PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA, THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS, AND SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE THROUGH THE EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND. HOWEVER, COUNCIL SOURCES TELL US THAT THE RANGE OF DIFFERENCES HAS NARROWED. THE FILE HAS BEEN RETURNED TO COREPER.

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9. PASSPORT UNION. THE MINISTERS WERE UNABLE TO REACH A DECISION ON THE COMMON PASSPORT ISSUE. ACCORDING TO COUNCIL AND PERMDEL SOURCES, GENSCHER MAINTAINED FRG INSISTENCE THAT THE PASSPORT BE PRINTED IN SIX LANGUAGES AND WAS UNWILLING TO BE FORTHCOMING ON PROPOSED COMPROMISES. THE FILE HAS ONCE AGAIN BEEN RETURNED TO COREPER.

10. AUTONOMOUS IMPORT SYSTEMS FOR STATE TRADING COUNTRIES. THE COUNCIL WENT THROUGH ITS ANNUAL EXERCISE OF APPROVING AUTONOMOUS IMPORT SYSTEMS FOR TRADE WITH THE STATE TRADING COUNTRIES (IN THE ABSENCE OF BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE EC AND THOSE COUNTRIES). LISTS OF QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS FOR 1977 WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

11. GSP FOR 1977. IN IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVIOUS
DECISIONS (EC BRUSSELS 11269), THE COUNCIL APPROVED
REGULATIONS EMBOYDING THE COMMUNITY'S 1977 GENERALIZED
TARIFF PREFERENCES SCHEME (SEE EC BRUSSELS 6802).
THE GEMAN RESUSAL TO GRANT HONG KONG GSP STATUS
ON TEXTILE PRODUCTS HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN OVERCOME BY
A COMPROMISE GIVING HONG KONG FREE ENTRY ON ALL BUT
THE MOST SENSITIVE ITEMS.HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ECBRU12302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760460-0694
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761246/aaaabncg.tel
Line Count: 177
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 EC BRUSSELS 12152, 76 THE HAGUE 6630
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by hartledg>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, DECEMBER 13, 1976: RESULTS
TAGS: MNUC, TECH, EAID, EFIN, EG, JO, SY, YO, TU, JA, EEC, IAEA, CIEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006